

b.) Remarks

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3, 7, 8, 10-12, and 17-19 have been amended in various particulars.

Regarding the objections to claims 1 and 10, the suggested changes were made.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject-matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claim was rejected because of insufficient antecedent basis for "the thermal print head". Antecedent basis for this feature is found in the first line of the claim.

Finally, claims 1-23 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Verdyck (US 2002/0136582A1) in view of Tainer et al. (US 2004/0179051A1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Verdyck application is not prior art to the present application.

Relative to 35 U.S.C. §102(b), the Verdyck application was not published more than one year prior the effective U.S. filing date of the present application (January 15, 2003).

Relative to 35 U.S.C. §102(e), the Verdyck application is not by "another"; there is a common inventive entity.

Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

It is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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